

Message Text

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42

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PRS-01 SSO-00

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O 201252Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5488

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT LOUIS 0834

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XO MP MILI

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA - NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND ILOIS

1. ON HIS RETURN TO MAURITIUS OCTOBER 19 PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM WAS ASKED INTER ALIA BY LOCAL PRESS ABOUT HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD REGARDING ABOVE SUBJECTS. HIS ANSWERS WERE ESSENTIALLY AS FOLLOWS:

(A) WE WERE ASSURED THAT THERE WOULD BE "NO NUCLEAR BASE" IN DIEGO GARCIA.

(B) PRESIDENT FORD TOOK NOTE OF OUR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR RESETTLEMENT OF ILOIS AND ASKED HIS SUBORDINATES TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. "I WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS LATER WITH MY GOOD FRIEND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR."

2. GOM INFORMATION MINISTRY AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED MAURITIUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION HAVE ASKED FOR PICTURES OF FORD-RAMGOOLAM MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO SHOW ON LOCAL TV.

3. I AM QUITE SURE THAT NEITHER DEPARTMENT NOR WHITE HOUSE WISH TO KEEP ME IN DARK ABOUT THE NATURE OF PRESIDENT FORD'S DISCUSSIONS WITH RAMGOOLAM, BUT THREE WEEKS HAVE NOW PASSED SINCE THAT MEETING TOOK PLACE AND IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND
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WHY I CANNOT BE PROVIDED WITH AT LEAST A SUMMARY OF THOSE DIS-

CUSSIONS (PORT LOUIS 819, 806 AND 792 PERTAIN).

4. OBVIOUSLY IT IS TO OUR GREAT ADVANTAGE TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
HELPFUL PUBLICITY HERE RE FORD-RAMGOOLAM MEETING, INCLUDING
PICTURES FOR LOCAL MEDIA AS WELL AS AUTOGRAPHED PICTURES FOR
PRIME MINISTER.

5. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.
MANHARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, DIEGO GARCIA, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
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Draft Date: 20 OCT 1975
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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